For Immediate Release Contact: Art Resnick (202) 927-8062 July 1, 2005 FY-05-30

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE VINTAGE DATE REQUIREMENTS

Washington, D.C. – The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) issued a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register proposing to to allow wine labeled with a State, multistate, county, or multicounty appellation of origin (or the foreign equivalent of a State or county) to bear a vintage date if at least 85 percent of the wine is derived from grapes harvested in the labeled calendar year. The proposal would retain the current requirement that at least 95 percent of the grapes in a vintage-dated wine be harvested in the year shown on the label for wine with an American viticultural area (or its foreign equivalent) as an appellation of origin.

Written comments must be received by August 30, 2005.

You may send comments to any of the following addresses:

- Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Attn: Notice No. 49, P.O. Box 14412, Washington, DC 20044-4412.
- 202-927-8525 (facsimile).
- nprm@ttb.gov (e-mail).
- http://www.ttb.gov/alcohol/rules/index.htm. An online comment form is posted with this notice on our Web site.
- http://www.regulations.gov (Federal e-rulemaking portal; follow instructions for submitting comments).

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